

# Mavericks Will Endeavor to Head League In Series Here With Silver City

## Guarding Signals Handicaps Catcher

Present Day Backstops Signal for the Next Play Before Pitcher Enters Box, Thereby Giving an Advantage to the Runner and Batter.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 25.—When old timers get to arguing about the relative merits of ball players of the 19th and 20th centuries they can win the argument in the backstopping department. Not that there are not as brilliant catchers now as ever poked through a mask, but the art of catching has fallen somewhat into decay, taking the whole run of major league catchers as a field of observation.

Probably 75 per cent of the catchers in the game today give the pitcher the sign for the next ball while the pitcher is off the slab. If there are runners on bases and particularly if there is a runner on first or second. This happens most frequently when there is a base runner likely to advance. When the bases are empty or there is only a runner on third the pitcher generally will take his regular position before looking for the catcher's sign. Some pitchers habitually remain off the slab until they know what they are going to pitch.

When this is not a deliberately acquired habit to overcome the tendency to pitch too fast it is done as a rule for the purpose of guarding against betraying the catcher's sign to the base runner.

**Signals Carefully Guarded.**  
There has been so much talk and suspicion about signal throwing in recent years that catchers and pitchers have devoted a lot of time and thought to crossing their opponents and preventing the detection of their signals. By stepping toward third base from the slab when there is a runner on first, the catcher enables the pitcher to conceal his hand from a man on first.

**System Handicaps Catcher.**  
In working out these schemes to checkmate would-be signal throwers, the catcher and pitcher have tossed into the discard one of the most effective defensive elements of the game—the eyes and wits of the catcher.

Oldtime backstops and a few of the present generation are of great assistance in every game in calling the turn on what the base runners or batters are planning to do on the next ball pitched.

In order to do this it is necessary for the pitcher to be on his slab ready to pitch before the sign is given. Then, with the runner and batsman alert for the play to start with the motion of the pitcher's arm, one or the other of the opponents is liable to give away the impending play by some unconscious move or attitude.

The wise catcher, squatting behind the batsman, keeps one eye on the runner and the other on the batsman and gives his sign to the pitcher deliberately, not hurriedly. If he detects the intent of the runner to steal or sees a hit and run play coming off, he can call for a pitch out, which means the ball will be delivered out of reach of the batsman, but in good position for the catcher to throw out the runner.

If the batsman has the pitcher in the hole so that it is not safe to waste a ball by pitching it out of reach, the catcher can call for a ball he knows it will be difficult for the batsman to hit safely.

If the backstop sees nothing to indicate there is any play on between the runner and the batsman he can more safely ask for any kind of a ball, since the batter is not likely to hit it unless it is a grounder.

**Advantage With Runner.**  
There is no way for the catcher to detect any of these things in advance of giving the sign, if said sign is hung

out while the pitcher is off the slab. Until the runner assumes his position neither the runner nor the batsman is likely to give himself away, if any tip has passed between them for a play on the next ball pitched.

They know the pitcher cannot deliver the ball while off the slab, consequently they stand alert until he gets into position. Then if they give themselves away, the catcher having already given his signal, cannot switch it without danger of confusing the pitcher or at least without causing a palpable hitch in the proceedings.

As a matter of fact, few catchers now days pay more than perfunctory attention to the runner or the batsman. They trust to instinct to pick out the spot where anything is to be attempted, and some of them do it by the "rule of three," apparently.

There are exceptions, of course, and those are the catchers who are of most value to their teams, whose worth is recognized by their managers and who are getting the money. The average fan does not detect this difference in backstops, but the wise manager does.

A lot of the talk about signal tipping is bunk. Any wise team will get some of the signs of a careless catcher. That is a cinch. But not often will any team get many of the signs of a wise and careful catcher.

There are so many ways of giving signals that they can be switched for every batsman if necessary. It is not possible for any one to read and tip off a catcher's signs except by watching what ball is pitched in response to a certain signal.

If the signals are changed for the next batsman, the tipper is at sea again, and is likely to give the batsman a tip that will result in getting said batsman's head knocked off.

The usual way is for the catcher to indicate his signals by the position of his hand. It is also done by showing the teeth or shutting the eyes. Sometimes the catcher will use two signs, and one of them will be phony. The runner or catcher cannot tell which is the phony with any degree of accuracy.

The crowd then stormed the ticket windows, demanding their money, vowing their ire on the park property. Several persons were hurt and a number of arrests were made.

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We can sell you seats, doors at panel door prices. Lander Lumber Co., Ad-vertisement.

## HOW GREAT MEN PLAY THE GAME

By Scar



HE MAKES BASE RUNNERS HUG-THE BASES BY KEEPING HIS EYE ON THEM ALMOST UP TO THE MOMENT THE BALL LEAVES HIS HAND

AND DID YOU EVER NOTICE? HE ALWAYS DOES HIS TWO STORY KILLY WHEN HE STRIDES ON PEN FIVE

## BOBBY WAUGH MAY BE BROUGHT HERE

Either Waugh or Dick Hyland to Meet Winner of Sunday's Fight.

Bobby Waugh, the sensational Ft. Worth lightweight, may be brought to El Paso to meet the winner of Sunday's fight between Frank Moran and Carl Morris. If Waugh cannot be secured, a match between Frank Moran and Carl Morris will be staged, although the lightweight contest is favored above the others.



to secure Bobby Chavez and "Battling" Chico for a twenty round bout in the near future. Chico is the only bantam in the southwest that has defeated Chavez in the last two years, and a fight between the little Mexican bantam champ of the Rocky mountains and "Battling" Chico, the Sonora Yaqui will doubtless be a big drawing card. Jimmy Bibb, the Kansas City feather, will be imported to meet the winner of this bout, should it materialize. Bob has been clamoring for a fight with either Paye or Moffatt for several weeks.

Frankie Gage tips the scales slightly in the punching line of the bout Sunday, while it is the opinion that Thorpe is the most clever and quicker of the two lightweights. Gage is a solid, aggressive puncher, while Thorpe is an excellent judge of distance and is quick with both hands. Gage went three rounds with Kid Paye, and one more stanza of boxing with Bob York Thursday afternoon. A large crowd attended the last day of hard work, which the lightweights went through, and a physician gave all of the principals a physical examination Friday afternoon. It is the opinion that Gage has been holding back in his quarters, although he cut loose with Bob York Thursday. His hands are very easily injured, and he is shy of the damaging punches which he might send to the

## MILWAUKEE GOLFER WINS FROM EVANS

Western Golf Champion Is Eliminated In Third Round of Championship Play at Chicago.

Chicago, Ill., July 25.—Charles Evans, Jr., the present western champion, was defeated in the third round of the Western Golf association championship tournament by E. P. Allis, of Milwaukee. The elimination of Evans was the feature of the play in the third round at the Homewood Country club. The champion, who was defeated by Allis, who is comparatively a new man in tournament play.

Warren K. Wood, of Homewood, survived his match with Fraser Hale, of Skokie, although the match went to 36 holes. Wood getting a hard won victory after the third extra hole. Robert A. Gardner, of Hinsdale, former national champion, defeated A. C. Perry, of Calumet, four and three.

J. C. Le Due, of Calumet, defeated H. W. Lockett, of Homewood, up in 28 holes.

In the semi-finals today Allis will play Gardner and Wood will meet Le Due.

F. L. Woodward, of Denver, who defeated R. P. Rolfe, of Chicago, three and two in the semi-finals, the secretary's cup, will meet R. B. Scribner, of Chicago, in the final.

**WOMEN BOWLERS ROLL HIGH SCORES**  
Mrs. R. Morris bowls Total of 584 in Three Games at Cactus Alleys, Winning Victory for Her Team.

Mrs. R. Morris rolled a high total of 584, and high game of 123, composed of women bowlers, at the Cactus alleys Thursday night. The team headed by Mrs. Morris won by a margin of 127 pins. Mrs. E. Schuts rolled a game of 202, and total of 533. The scores:

Mrs. R. Morris.....193 212 179 584  
Mrs. E. Schwenker.....193 158 148 499  
Mrs. G. Bakfay.....109 115 126 350

Totals.....1442  
Mrs. S. White.....132 160 155 447  
Mrs. A. T. Diehl.....107 100 128 335  
Mrs. E. Schuts.....173 158 202 533

Totals.....1215

**INDIANAPOLIS PITCHER GOES TO SAN FRANCISCO**  
Indianapolis, Ind., July 25.—George Kaiserling, of the Indianapolis American Association club pitching staff, has been sold to the San Francisco Coast League team, according to manager Mike Kelly. Kaiserling is a good, but erratic pitcher.

Kelly also announced the purchase of Geo. Norton, a young left hander, from the Hastings club of the Nebraska State league. Norton has been the sensation of the Nebraska league all season, although it is his first in professional ball. He will report to the Indians August 5.

**McFARLAND AND RITCHIE MAY FIGHT IN MILWAUKEE**  
Chicago, Ill., July 25.—Negotiations have been begun for a 10 round contest between Packey McFarland and Willie Ritchie to be held in Milwaukee early in October. It was announced that McFarland has agreed and that Ritchie is considering the proposition.

## COLLINS TO WORK WITH MAVERICKS

New Player Is Secured for Second Sack Porter May Be on Mount in Saturday's Game Against Silver City.

All worry of the El Paso fans over the second base position ceased Thursday afternoon, when Tommy Smith introduced a new man, Chas. Collins, at the second sack to work against the Silver City Indians Saturday and Sunday. It is probable that Dan Kanan, of El Paso, will be installed as backstop in both games, as a regular catcher has not been secured by the Maverick officials.

Collins made an excellent showing in his initial appearance and, although he has not had any professional experience, he is a heady player and handy with the willow.

Silver City will arrive early Saturday morning, on the train, the automobiles being left at home this time. Lefty Thomas, recently recruited from the Western league, will accompany the Indians as premier of the twirling staff. Both the in and out battlements of the Indians have been strengthened since their last appearance here.

If the Mavericks can succeed in making a clean sweep of both games, they will climb into first berth unopposed. If Huxley can do the same with Santa Rita on the western circuit, the Diggers are just one game ahead of the Mavericks right now, and that lead can be speedily overcome if the Mavericks can outplay the Indians in both games Saturday and Sunday.

Asa Porter will probably be selected to inaugurate the series for the Mavericks, while old "Doc" Barnett will doubtless tell on the rubber for the cliff dwellers. Nellis will in all probability work Sunday, although Gutterer is in good shape.

Only one more week of play at home remains for the Mavericks. On August 2-3 they will meet Santa Rita at Washington park, and for the next two weeks will wind up the Copper league on the road. The final and deciding games of the league will be played at Santa Rita and Silver City on August 14.

W. H. Mosely, of Santa Rita, returned to his home Thursday night. It is reported that he failed to secure the player he was endeavoring to sign for the Diggers.

## Bat Boy For the Yanks, Alone, Escapes Errors

Birdie Cree of the New York Americans Is Said to Be Keen for a Shift; Peckinpaugh Makes Errors, But Also Makes Good.

NEW YORK, July 25.—Everybody but the bat boy made errors on the visiting bench, including Huxley, during a game between the Yankees and Tigers in Detroit. Doc Eoswell slipped up himself, scoring a Cincinnati hit, and as you may have observed, the Doc is some stickler for facts.

Only Three Blue Ones.  
Hully Gee, all the blue chips they clicked amounted to three, and that off Old Ed Willitt. Say, they never even scored until the Angelus tapped. Then B. Daniels negotiated a stroll, was allowed to Dick Turpin for second and rode home on the Forrester's single.

Rumor has it that Chance and Cree don't worship each other and that Cree is keen to shift. The Woodsman had a couple of raps and seems to be a good fly skater, but you can't tell an umbrella by the cover.

Roger Peckinpaugh, who played the most consistent ball on the trip, and who will be seen in Yankee uniform next year, had an edge on all the limburger you ever whiffed. He dropped a fly ball, he threw sour twice and his crimes smoked to high heaven. But he was not the only one. Dick Gossett, who has been steady as a brick church all the way dropped a throw from Peck in the second with two on base, and this tragedy eventually cost three runs.

Peck made three errors, all told, and yet he had the nerve to order a planked steak.

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**SCOOP THE CUB REPORTER** Meanwhile They are Galloping Around the Circuit By "Hop"

LONG-FLY HEADED TOWARD THE OUTFIELD—  
I GOT IT!  
I GOT IT!  
I GOT IT!  
YOUR BALL?  
YAS—THAT WAS MY BALL!  
VERY WELL TAKE IT—I DON'T WANT IT!

AS PLAYER, MANAGER—I PUT THE BOSS IN THE SOUTH GARDEN AND AM COVERING CENTER MYSELF IT MAKES AN UNBEATABLE OUTFIELD—WE PLAY WITH SUCH SPLENDID DASH AND TEAM WORK